
Program Memorandum Intermediaries

Department of Health and
Human Services (DHHS)
HEALTH CARE FINANCING
ADMINISTRATION (HCFA)

Transmittal A-01-78

Date: JUNE 27, 2001

CHANGE REQUEST 1746

SUBJECT: Special Handling of Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) Claims Containing HCPCS Code G0121 (Screening Colonoscopy)

HCPCS code G0121 "Screening Colonoscopy" previously a non-covered code became effective July 1, 2001. However, since this code was not included in the July OPPS OCE as a covered code, claims containing code G0121 will not process to payment. This change has been included in the October OCE and will be made retroactive to July 1, 2001. The purpose of this Program Memorandum (PM) is to advise you to hold claims containing this code until the October OCE is installed. At that time release the claims for payment, including any applicable interest, as interest payments will be impacted due to the inability to process these claims timely.

When releasing these claims for payment, apply condition code 15 to indicate the claims are clean claims in which payment was delayed due to a HCFA processing delay and are therefore, not subject to contractor performance evaluation/claims processing timeliness standards.

The *effective date* for this PM is July 1, 2001.

The *implementation date* for this PM is July 1, 2001.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.

This PM may be discarded after July 1, 2002.

If you have any questions, contact Barbara Strickland, (410) 786-0508.